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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of:

Okada *et al.*

Appl. No. To be Assigned
(Continuation of U.S. Appl. No. 09/474,127; Filed:
December 29, 1999)

Filed: Herewith

For: Axle Driving Apparatus

Art Unit: To be Assigned

Examiner: To be Assigned

Atty. Docket: 0666.023000O/TGD/ALF

Preliminary Amendment

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Please enter the following amendment into the application prior to the examination thereof.

Please amend the captioned application as follows:

In the Claims:

Please cancel claims 1-6 without prejudice to or disclaimer of the subject matter contained therein. Please add the following new claims:

a1

✓ 1. An axle driving apparatus, comprising:
a hydraulic pump including a vertical pump shaft also serving as an input shaft and a pump piston disposed parallel to said pump shaft;
a hydraulic motor including a motor shaft and a motor piston disposed parallel to said motor shaft;
a center section for fluidly connecting said hydraulic pump and said hydraulic motor with each other, wherein said hydraulic pump and said hydraulic motor are mounted on